

WHAT'S NEW

The Youth Parole Authority is a citizen board responsible for determining length of stay of an adjudicated youth in secure care. It further mandates treatment objectives and expectations of youth while they are in secure confinement. These individuals serve terms of 4 years and are appointed by the Governor with approval from the Utah State Senate. The Authority consists 15 individuals with training or experience in social work, law, juvenile justice, education, or related behavioral sciences. The Authority is a bi-partisan group representing a balance of race, gender, and geographical location throughout Utah.

The 2014 fiscal year ended June 30, 2014. This was a year that the Youth Parole Authority (YPA) experienced a slight reduction in the number of parole hearings that it conducted. There were 589 parole hearings conducted in 2014. The majority (80%) of those hearings were either initial or review hearings. There were 95 administrative hearings held where Juvenile Justice jurisdiction over secure care parolees was terminated by the YPA. Of those 95 administrative hearings, 70 were for what the YPA calls "successful terminations." That means the parolees had successfully completed their parole expectations, which includes no new referrals anywhere for violations of the law. This is a healthy 74% successful termination rate.

Each of the ten full-time Parole Authority member positions are occupied at this time. We also have three of the five part-time Authority member positions filled at this time. The vacancies will be filled as necessary if and when secure care caseloads trend upward.